

The Picture "Oswald with a Gun": Evidence of Forgery

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Printed in the November 24, 1975, issue of "Time" magazine is an upper portion of a rather famous photograph entitled "Oswald with guns" (Life Cover, February 21, 1964) with the subtitle: "No doctoring of the negative." See Figure 1.

When Lee Harvey Oswald was shown this photograph (in its entirety), he stated: "That is not a picture of me: it's my face, but my face has been superimposed — the rest of the picture is not me at all. I will prove that it is a fake." He never had the opportunity; the bullet from Jack Ruby, a day later, silenced whatever more he could have said.



Figure 1. "Oswald with a Gun"

The photograph is in the public domain, being Warren Commission Exhibit No. 134. When this photograph is viewed in its entirety, it contains much internal evidence of forgery and contrivance, thus confirming what Oswald said. Among this evidence is the conflicting angles of shadows within the photograph. This evidence demonstrates that either the sun was in two different positions simultaneously in the sky, or that the photograph was tampered with. It is astounding that the editors of "Time", who are sophisticated and informed persons, could publish such a picture — unless such organizations as the CIA and the FBI were influencing them.

One position of the sun shows shadows slanting through most of the picture, and most notably Oswald's body. The other position of the sun shows shadows cast straight down from Oswald's eyebrows and nose (the nose shadow being perfectly centered on the mouth). If the photograph is assumed to be authentic, the sun was in two places at once.

To make the point perfectly clear, we took some pictures: see Figure 2 and Figure 3. These are photographs of "Christopher Johns with a gun"; he is a researcher and member of the Committee for Another Look. These photographs were taken by Denis De Silva, another member of the committee. These photographs were taken at almost the same time, but at different angles from the direction of the sun.

In each photograph, look at the shadow of the body, the shadow of the nose, the shadow of the eyebrows, and other shadows. Observe the complete consistency of the shadows.

When the Warren Commission further stated that since the negative of Figure 1 was from Oswald's camera to the exclusion of all others, they implied that the photograph was genuine. Perhaps Oswald's camera was used to take a photograph of another photograph which was already doctored; but a photograph of a forgery does not make a forgery genuine.

It is important to remember that President Gerald R. Ford of the United States was a member of the Warren Commission; that he wrote a book on Lee Harvey Oswald, "Portrait of the Assassin"; that he undoubtedly looked at this picture containing obvious internal evidence of forgery, accepted the forgery, and passed it on with his approval. Such actions also do not make a forgery genuine, nor do they speak well for the perspicacity or the character of President Ford. □



Figures 2 and 3. "Christopher Johns with a gun" These photographs were taken at approximately the same time, but at different angles from the sun. In each photograph, the shadow of the body, the shadow of the nose and the shadow of the eyebrows are completely consistent with one another. Compare these photos with Figure 1 to see the inconsistencies of the shadows in that picture.

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possibility that the bullet passed through the President's body in the way asserted by the Warren Commission. Rather, it would have been traveling at a lateral angle too great to permit it to strike Governor Connally. The mobility of the shoulder area and indications from folds in the skin that the shoulders at time of autopsy were not in their normal position mean that attempts to determine the

bullet's direction from autopsy data can only be approximate. The configuration of the limousine also needs to be taken into account, and when combined with autopsy evidence, support the conclusion that the first shot was fired from a location lower than the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository and from a position in or near its western end. □